

## Message Text

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67

ORIGIN L-03

INFO OCT-01 ARA-11 ADP-00 TRSE-00 OPR-02 A-01 CU-04 EB-11

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DRAFTED BY L/ ARA: TABOREK

3/29/73 EXT 23082

APPROVED BY L: MBFELDMAN

ARA/ CEN: AKSLEGHT

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P 292200 Z MAR 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA PRIORITY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 058234

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: SCUL

SUBJECT: PROPOSED CUSTOMS REGULATIONS ON IMPORT OF  
PRE- COLUMBIAN MONUMENTAL AND ARCHITECTURAL  
ARTIFACTS

REF: A. STATE 186071, 10/12/72

STATE 212783, 11/22/72

B. STATE A-1732, 2/23/73

1. BUREAU OF CUSTOMS HAS INFORMED DEPARTMENT THAT  
PROPOSED REGULATIONS ON IMPORT OF PRE- COLUMBIAN MONUMENTAL  
AND ARCHITECTURAL ARTIFACTS, REF B, WILL GO INTO EFFECT  
APPROXIMATELY APRIL 15, 1973. AS POINTED OUT REFTELS, IN  
ORDER FOR A COUNTRY TO BE PROTECTED BY THESE REGULATIONS,  
ITS DOMESTIC LAW MUST PROVIDE FOR REGULATION OF EXPORT OF  
ARTIFACTS SUCH AS THOSE COVERED BY PROPOSED CUSTOMS  
REGULATIONS.

2. DEPARTMENT THUS FAR HAS NOT BEEN INFORMED AS TO WHETHER  
HONDURAN LAW PROVIDES FOR SUCH REGULATION, DESPITE SEVERAL  
REQUESTS THAT EMBASSY INQUIRE OF GOH AS TO RELEVANT  
HONDURAN LAW, OR, IF NECESSARY, THAT EMBASSY ITSELF DO  
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APPROPRIATE RESEARCH. WE CONSIDER THAT ABSENCE OF HONDURAS  
FROM LIST OF PROTECTED COUNTRIES WOULD BE GREATLY PREJUDI-  
CIAL TO SUCCESS OF REGULATIONS IN CURBING ILLICIT TRAFFIC

IN PRE- COLUMBIAN ARTIFACTS IN LIGHT OF THAT COUNTRY' S  
VERY SIGNIFICANT MAYAN HERITAGE.

3. IN VIEW OF FOREGOING AND OF IMMINENT PROMULGATION OF  
CUSTOMS REGULATIONS REF B, DEPARTMENT URGES THAT EVERY  
REPEAT EVERY EFFORT BE MADE TO DETERMINE WHETHER HONDURAN  
LAW REGULATES EXPORT OF PRE- COLUMBIAN ARTIFACTS, AND THAT  
EMBASSY TRANSMIT SUCH INFORMATION TO DEPARTMENT ASAP. ROGERS

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\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

## Message Attributes

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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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